



Iowa Department of Human Services

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INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO.1529

DATE: July 28, 2015

TO: Iowa Medicaid Nursing Facilities, Intermediate Care Facility/Intellectual Disability (ICF/ID) and Residential Care Facility (RCF) Providers

FROM: Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS), Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)

RE: Clarification of Attending Physician Requirement on Claims

EFFECTIVE: October 1, 2015

Effective for dates of service October 1, 2015, and after, the IME will no longer accept long term care claims submitted with an inappropriate attending provider appended. Appropriate attending providers are defined as actively participating Physician MDs, Physician DOs, Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners (ARNP) and Physician Assistants (PAs). All other provider types, including but not limited to facilities, podiatrists, dentists, or non-enrolled providers with Iowa Medicaid, that are appended to the claim will cause the claim to deny.

This requirement is defined in the Iowa Administrative Code 441-81.13(13):

- A physician must personally approve in writing a recommendation that a person be admitted to a facility. Each resident must remain under the care of a physician throughout the length of stay.
- A physician must see all nursing facility residents at least once every 30 days for the first 90 days after admission, and at least once every 60 days thereafter. A physician visit is considered timely if it occurs no later than ten days after the date the visit was required. All required physician visits must be made by the physician personally.
- The facility must maintain the physician's orders and progress notes for each month the member is a resident.

If you have any questions, please contact the IME Provider Services Unit at 1-800-338-7909 or by email at imeproviderservices@dhs.state.ia.us.